

What is claimed is:

1. A light emitting device comprising: a semiconductor laser chip which emits a laser beam; a coherence reducing member which receives the laser beam and reduces coherence of the laser beam to generate a lower coherence light beam; and a package which houses the laser chip and the coherence reducing member, the package having an opening; wherein the laser beam emitted from the laser chip is converted into a lower coherence light beam by the coherence reducing member, and the lower coherence light beam is outputted through the opening.
2. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the coherence reducing member is composed of a fluorescent material which is excited by the laser beam emitted from the semiconductor laser chip to generate fluorescent light having a greater wavelength than the laser beam.
3. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor laser chip is a chip which emits a purple-blue laser beam, and the coherence reducing member comprises a fluorescent layer which is excited by the purple-blue laser beam to generate white light.
4. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the coherence reducing member comprises a reflective member having a reflective surface roughened for reflecting the laser beam incident thereon in an unevenly phase-shifted manner.
5. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

semiconductor laser chip is a laser chip of end light emission type which emits a purple-blue laser beam in two directions parallel to a PN junction plane thereof.

6. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the
5 semiconductor laser chip is a laser chip of face light emission type.

7. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the package has a positive electrode terminal and a negative electrode terminal for applying a DC voltage to the semiconductor laser
10 chip.

8. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the package comprises a metal block for dissipating heat generated by the semiconductor laser chip.

9. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the
15 semiconductor laser chip comprises at least one of three laser chips which emit red, green and blue light beams, respectively.

10. A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the package comprises a light transmissive plate fitted in the opening thereof.

20